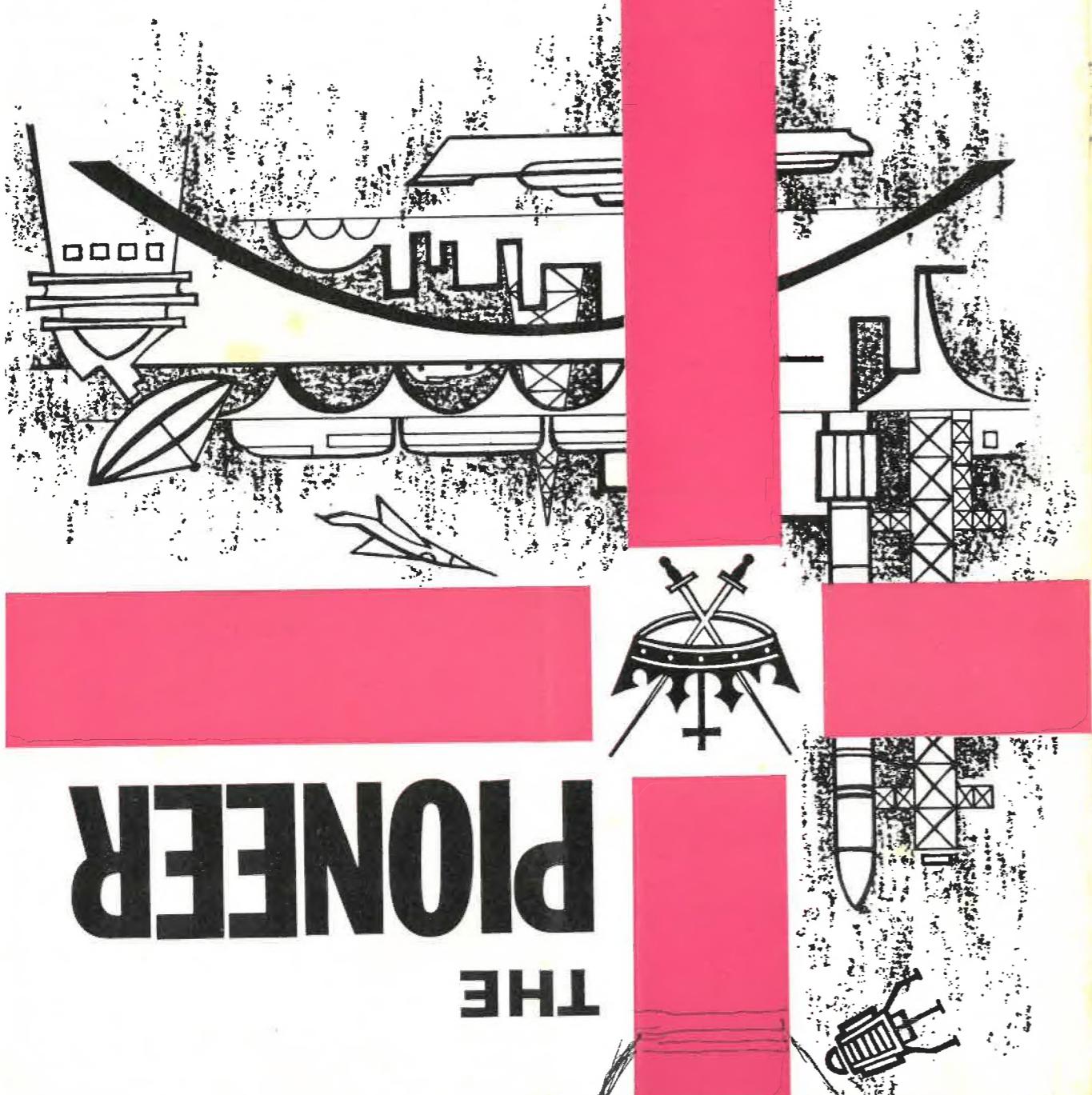


CHRISTMAS APPEAL

PUBLICATION OF THE CHURCH ARMY IN AUSTRALIA



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THE PIONEER, DECEMBER, 1974

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Books
are the best
Gifts

CHRISTMAS APPEAL 1974

"I bring you good tidings . . . unto you is born . . . a Savior, which is Christ the Lord." (Luke 2:10, 11)

reality of God in you, and ..faith in His workings... — ..life more abundant...”

How easy it is for all of us to get caught up in the commercial web associated with Christmas! If it is our hope, however, that this season may still be a means of your knowing, in an increasing measure, the experience.

Discovery and proof of the effectiveness of the power of God in a person's life have been this lady's

His love to others

player and safety in His workings and trust that in some small way I may have been the means of showing

years. I remember their first visit to . . . and, as a result of this, a visitation was made over the years. During that Mission I learned what Christ meant to me. Over the years I have come to know the value of

"I am happy to think that I have been associated with The Church Army for almost all of its 40

This letter arrived recently —

encouragement in particular areas, and, of great interest to us, news of people's own life experiences.

Good Tidings

THE PIONEER, DECEMBER, 1974

All we ask is for your help to enable us to continue the work of Evangelism in a practical and helpful way, so that those with whom we share the Gospel by word or by deed, may know there is a God who loves and understands them with a saving love.

to all friends and supporters of our work.
Your Christmas gift to our funds, no matter how large or small it is, will be truly appreciated. It
will be an expression of praise and thanksgiving to God for His goodness to us all and of the offering of
ourselves to His service.

The Board Members, Officers and Students of the Church Army send their sincere Christmas greetings

Looking to the future

NEW POSITIONS: Pray for those officers who will be going to new work situations in the new year. Pray, too, for the people with whom they will work, and that the Holy Spirit may prepare those to whom they will go with the message of the gospel.

FOR PRAYER SPECIAL POINTS

CHRISTMAS: Pray for those who will be involved in services, beach missions, vacation schools and other activities over the Christmas/January period. Pray that the Christmas message may be the means of God becoming real in the lives of many people.

Please pray that God will prepare them in every way for the task ahead of them.

NEW OFFICERS: Pray for those who have completed their training and are being admitted to the Office of Evangelist and those who have com- pleted their training and are being commissioned as Church Officers. The new Australian Officers will be Captain Kevin Culien and Sister Loraine Dorrington. Captain Richard Dyer has been trained in Australia, to begin work as an Officer in the New Zealand Church Army.

for the young men and women who are being called to be evangelists in the Church Army, and have enquired about training. Pray for those who are seeking God's Will in this matter. for numerous support for special projects — in particular, Captain McKittrick's work amongst "alternative culture" groups in northern New South Wales.

varied work of evangelism of officers of the Church, seminary, the classes, etc., the work of the Army, for the many people throughout Australia who have supported our work over the years, by prayer and by giving, especially those who have only recently become subscribers.



Left: Sister Johnson, a nursing sister and patients in a Newcastle hospital.



Right: Sister Johnson visiting a patient.

Best wishes, Sister Johnson, in your retirement.

From Sydney, it was back to Newcastle, where, since 1967, she has been on the Staff of the Cathedral Auxiliary there.

NEWCASTLE



"I brought children in off the streets to a club room and Sunday School . . . visited homes . . . praying as I went for fear of being landed with a bottle . . ."

Sister joined the team of Church Army officers working in the Inner-City of Sydney. Her particular responsibility was ministry amongst aboriginal people and carrying out a rescue work

ministry amongst women and girls.

SYDNEY, 1964

way of life".



"I returned to the mission field, in the Gulf of Carpentaria, to the remote Edward River Mission, Capentaria, where I rinsed four months of the year, and you swelter for the other eight. One contacted the doctor by boat and aerial ambulance. In the wet weather we laid in stocks for four months, after that the boat called six-weekly. One's only contact with the outside world was the wireless. Here I taught the people how to sew and cook, and the Christian way of life".

CARPENTARIA, 1956



WOMEN'S AUXILIARIES — The Auxiliaries in Newcastle and Sydney again worked very hard to raise money in support of the Society. The total \$1010 and we are greatly indebted to all members for this splendid achievement.

MISSIONS — Three parochial missions were held, one each in the Sydney, Bathurst and Brisbane diocese. There appears to be renewed and growing interest in parish missions.

REQUISITES FOR OFFICERS — A significant feature of this year was the unpreceded number of requests for our officers. About 40 requests were received in the period October to March. Most of these were for parish evangelists and a few for youth leaders in parishes. Two of the requests were able to fill were in the Armidale Diocese these were for parochial evangelists and a few for youth leaders in parishes. From the field and meetings to assist the effective working and various committees of the Board also held numerous meetings to assist the effective working and the year under review, in addition to which the

STAFF SISTER — Sister Free was appointed Staff Sister at Federal Office as from the last January, 1974. The Bishop of Grafton then appointed a Management Committee which has functioned very effectively.

The theme of our Staff Conference last January was "Proclaiming Christ Jesus in the power of the

Holy Spirit". This is the constant work and privilege of Church Army evangelists in whatever spheres they minister. From visits to officers in the field and their reports of their work, it is clear to me that from the reports of officers in the field and our Captains and Sisters are faithful, effective and diligent in their proclamation of the Lord Jesus Christ.

Boards to take on the full financial responsibility for October, 1973. This required a step of faith by the in northern New South Wales as from the last outreach ministry to "Alternative Culture" groups Captain McLaughlin from part-time to full-time in an dioceses.

APPONTMENTS — Those of particular note were in a wide variety of tasks in nine Bookshops. I on leave of absence and the remedial Office and the Training College, I in charge of the number at the end of the year remained at 26. was commissioned, one officer resigned, thus the number of the year numbered 26, one new officer joined the beginning of the year remained at 26.

After ten years of faithful service as a Board member, Mr. Cecil Pearson resigned last October. After ten years to assist the effective working and various committees of the Board also held numerous meetings to assist the effective working and the year under review, in addition to which the

EXECUTIVE BOARD — Seven ordinary meetings were held during the year under review, in addition to which the

The theme of our Staff Conference last January was "Proclaiming Christ Jesus in the power of the



Extracts from the Federal Secretary's Annual Report

Your Christmas Gift may be sent to us in the enclosed envelope.

We sometimes think that the spirit of wonder lies only in the realm of young children and the innocent, but God has given us the spiritual capacity to retain the element of wonder as we contemplate the length and breadth and height and depth of God's love towards man. If then we are apt to think that Christians implicitly by asking him this Christmas never to allow us to lose the abiding joy of wonder. Do think a time for children, cannot we seek God's blessing for each one of us to live in this realm of trust and about Christ's coming to redeem us and to give us the inheritance of the saints in glory by trust in His implicit by asking him this Christmas never to lose the abiding joy of wonder. Do think a time for children, cannot we seek God's blessing for each one of us to live in this realm of trust and breadth and height and depth of God's love towards man. If then we are apt to think that Christians have not only the call to thank Him for the practical outreach of our work over the past twelve months in the Church Army, to thank Him for the spiritual outreach of our work over the past twelve months in parochial mission, in teaching, in social work and in preparing young men and women for full-time service. Let us remember that so much of the thrust of this work depends upon continuing prayer. We have the men and women able to do the work — we need to maintain them in this coming twelve months by prayer and sacrifice giving.

I take this opportunity to express the thanks of the Members of the Board to all who have served them and the Society over the past year. This includes officers and others employed by the Society, and all of you who have faithfully supported this work of evangelism.

God bless you at Christmas and in the coming new year and, as you remember God's gift of His Son, do two things — give yourself afresh to Him and give material support to the work that is so near to His own heart.

Yours very sincerely,
John Thompson, Secy. S.

A Christmas Message
from the Chairman
of the Board



Kevlin Cullen and Lorraine Dorrington have just completed the two-year course at the Training College, and will spend their first year as officers in the field in 1975.

READY TO GO



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The message of Jesus Christ is relevant to the world and to the needs of men today. We see the ministry of evangelism as an overcoming power for the extension of Christ's kingdom. . . . this is the victory that overcomes the world, our faith." 1 John 5:4.

Together, with our thanks to Almighty God, we extend our thanks and gratitude to all who supported us in prayer and other ways during the past two years.

Now, as we look to the future with our eyes fixed on Jesus, we anticipate, the best yet to come.

Throughout the last two years, many people have asked me why I came into Church Army. I suppose at first it was because the work of the Society interested me, but now I know that this is where God wants me to serve Him.

I could look back at my formal training and become very nostalgic. My practical work this year was spent as Parish Sister in the Sydney suburb of Villawood — an area that could be referred to as an "old" New Housing Area. As well as working at Villawood, I was given the opportunity of going to Melbourne and Brisbane for the Society's Annual Assembly preachers in those cities. I also fulfilled the task of Acting Matron for eight days at Lisgar House, a home for teenage working girls, at Armcliffe in the old New Housing Area.

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preaching of Christ; "Romans 10:17. As we go out, "in the name of Jesus, " it is in the sure knowledge that His Spirit is going before us to prepare the way ahead. We know that the victory is already won through the shed blood of Christ. We also share His victory and we have His guarantee, "I will build my church and the gates of hell will not prevail" (Matthew 16:18).

Evangelism is our ministry and we see it in the context of the gifts given by Christ to His church. And this gifts were that some should be apostles, some prophets, some evangelists, some teachers, and what is heard comes by the Spirit of God.

His blesssings abundant. Our hearts are filled with praise and thanks to God for His call to us, His undying love and the privilege

His people today. Therefore, as a family, we see our future little with the Church Army taking the form of adventure, witness and service.

College training is almost complete and we feel the motivation of the Holy Spirit to " . . . bear the news to every land".

"... the best . . . yet to come"

Kevin Cullen and Loraine Dorrington have just completed the two-year course at the Trintim College, and will spend their first year as officers in the field in 1975.

READY TO GO